

MS#307882.01 (5113)

REMARKS**Allowable Claims**

Applicants appreciate the allowance of the subject matter of claims 5-8 and 31-34.

Applicants hereby amend claim 5 to incorporate the features of claims 1 and 4. Claims 1 and 4 are canceled herein without prejudice. Applicants also hereby reserve the right to file one or more divisional and/or continuation applications directed to any of the canceled claims during the pendency of this application. Claims 2, 3, and 6-12 now depend directly or indirectly from claim 5 and are submitted as patentable for the same reasons as allowable claim 5.

Applicants hereby amend claim 31 to incorporate the features of claims 28 and 30. Claims 28 and 30 are canceled herein without prejudice. Applicants also hereby reserve the right to file one or more divisional and/or continuation applications directed to any of the canceled claims during the pendency of this application. Claims 29 and 32-34 now depend directly or indirectly from claim 31 and are submitted as patentable for the same reasons as allowable claim 31.

Applicants hereby cancel claims 13-27 and 35-40 without prejudice. Applicants also hereby reserve the right to file one or more divisional and/or continuation applications directed to any of the canceled claims during the pendency of this application.

To summarize, claims 1, 4, 13-28, 30, and 35-40 are canceled herein and claims 2, 3, 5, 9, 11, 12, 29, and 31 are amended herein. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 2, 3, 5-12, 29, and 31-34 will be pending and are in proper form for allowance.

Initialed Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants note that the initialed Information Disclosure Statement dated April 22, 2004 and included in the present Office action does not include Examiner initials adjacent reference number 29 (U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0128196). Applicants would appreciate inclusion of another copy of the initialed IDS with reference 29 initialed in the next correspondence from the Office.

MS#307882.01 (5113)

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is felt that a full and complete response has been made to the Office action and, as such, places the application in condition for allowance. Although the prior art made of record and not relied upon may be considered pertinent to the disclosure, none of these references anticipates or makes obvious the recited invention.

The Applicants wish to expedite prosecution of this application. If the Examiner deems the claims as amended to not be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned to discuss making an Examiner's amendment to place the claims in condition for allowance.

Applicants do not believe that a fee is due in connection with this response. If, however, the Commissioner determines that a fee is due, he is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted,



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BPK/dss

VIA FACSIMILE